



**Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Department
Office of Governor Deval L. Patrick
Press Release**

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GOVERNOR PATRICK AND MASSPORT DISCUSS OPPORTUNITIES FOR INCREASED BUSINESS WITH OFFICIALS AT THE PANAMA CANAL



Governor Patrick and the members of the Massachusetts delegation, including executives from MassDOT and Massport, visit the Panama Canal at the Miraflores Locks. (Photo: Cortesía del Canal de Panamá)

PANAMA CITY, PANAMA - Wednesday, March 19, 2014 - Governor Deval Patrick, Transportation Secretary Richard A. Davey and Massport CEO Thomas P. Glynn today met with Jorge L. Quijano, the CEO of the Panama Canal Authority, the autonomous agency that manages the Panama Canal, and viewed the Panama Canal Expansion Project. The Panama Canal is currently undergoing an expansion that, once complete, will potentially double the inputs and outputs through the Conley Container Terminal in South Boston.

“The Panama Canal is a critical gateway to the Commonwealth,” said Governor Patrick. “The expansion project means more opportunity for shipping business in Massachusetts, more jobs, and greater economic benefit.”

Cargo ships that come through the Panama Canal and call on Massport’s Conley Terminal in South Boston contribute to the local and regional economy. One-third of all waterborne cargo into and out of New England moves through Conley Terminal, with the remainder primarily shipped through New York and New Jersey and carried into New England on land.

“Seeing the Canal firsthand is a reminder of our interconnectedness to other regions of the world,” said Secretary Davey. “The work they are doing today has real impact and potential for the Commonwealth. Transportation is a critical link and I am excited to see what results as this project moves towards completion.”

In 2012, the value of container cargo through Conley Terminal was \$4.7 billion. The terminal provides more than 7,000 jobs for people working at the facility and for those transporting cargo from the terminal.

“Boston is the oldest continuously-operating port in the United States,” said Glynn. “We have a functional piece of history in the Seaport that has been providing jobs since the city’s inception. The shipping industry continues to evolve with the Panama Canal’s current expansion and we are working very hard to ensure the Port remains an economic engine for the region.”

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